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Dated: January 9, 2002

Signature:

Robert B. Cohen

#5  
Docket No.: SCEIWI 3.0-090  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Ebihara et al.

Application No.: 09/974,608

Filed: October 10, 2001

For: DATA PROCESSING SYSTEM AND  
METHOD, COMPUTER PROGRAM, AND  
RECORDING MEDIUM



Group Art Unit: 2152

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the references listed on the enclosed PTO-form be made of record and considered with respect to the above-referenced U.S. patent application. A copy of each reference is enclosed. These references were cited in a corresponding International Search Report, a copy of which is enclosed. Submission of the present Information Disclosure Statement should not be taken as an admission that the cited references are legally available prior art or that the same are pertinent or material.

In the event that any fee is due in connection with the present Information Disclosure Statement, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 12-1095.

Dated: January 9, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

By

Robert B. Cohen

Registration No.: 32,768

LERNER, DAVID, LITTENBERG,  
KRUMHOLZ & MENTLIK, LLP

600 South Avenue West  
Westfield, New Jersey 07090

(908) 654-5000

Attorneys for Applicant



PTO/SB/08A (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

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<b>Substitute for form 1449A/PTO</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	09/974,608
				Filing Date	October 10, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Hitoshi Ebihara
				Art Unit	2152
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	SCEI 3.0-090

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	A	5,237,686	08-17-1993	Asano et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	B	JP 8-138060 A	05-31-1996	HITACHI LTD		**
	C	JP 7-248750 A	09-26-1995	HITACHI LTD		**
	D	JP 62-118479 A	05-29-1987	SONY CORPORATION		**
	E	JP 4-131960 A	05-06-1992	HITACHI LTD, HITACHI INF & CONTROL SYST INC		**

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the application number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*\* English abstract attached